

Circular

MSSB/UNSO_8/2014 23 October 2014

Circular to Money Service Operators Anti-Money Laundering/Counter-Terrorist Financing

(1) United Nations Sanctions (Côte d'Ivoire) Regulation 2014

The United Nations Sanctions (Côte d'Ivoire) Regulation 2014 ("the Côte d'Ivoire Regulation") made under the United Nations Sanctions Ordinance (Cap. 537) ("UNSO") was published in the Gazette (L.N. 114 of 2014) on 26 September 2014 with immediate effect. A list specifying "relevant persons" under section 28 of the Côte d'Ivoire Regulation was published in the Gazette on 10 October 2014 (G.N. 5775 of 2014).

The Côte d'Ivoire Regulation implements sanctions against Côte d'Ivoire imposed by the United Nations Security Council ("UNSC") under Resolution 2153.

We would like to draw money service operators' ("MSOs") attention to section 4 of the Côte d'Ivoire Regulation which provides for the prohibition against making available funds or other financial assets or economic resources to certain persons or entities, or dealing with funds or other financial assets or economic resources of certain persons or entities, except with a licence.

(2) United Nations Sanctions (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) (Amendment) Regulation 2014

The United Nations Sanctions (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) (Amendment) Regulation 2014 ("the DPRK Amendment Regulation") made under the UNSO was published in the Gazette (L.N. 115 of 2014) on 26 September 2014 with immediate effect.

The DPRK Amendment Regulation amends the existing sanctions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ("DPRK") to implement decisions of the UNSC in Resolution 2094. It also implements relevant decisions of the UNSC to expand the scope of sanctions against the DPRK under UNSC Resolution 1718 to cover updated lists of items, material, equipment, goods or technology.

We would like to draw MSOs' attention to section 12 of the DPRK Amendment Regulation which prohibits a regulated person against:

 the provision of financial services or the transfer of funds or other financial assets or economic resources that could contribute to a prohibited programme or activity, or



 making available, or dealing with, funds or other financial assets or economic resources if the funds, financial assets or economic resources are associated with a prohibited programme or activity.

The aforesaid lists and regulations can be found on the Government's website (http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e).

(3) US President's Executive Order 13224

Further to our circular issued on 11 September 2014, this is to inform you that the US Government has updated the list of designated individuals and entities issued under the US President's Executive Order 13224 ("the Executive Order"). The updated information can be found on the website of the US Treasury (http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Documents/terror.pdf)

As the designated individuals and entities under the Executive Order may be updated by the US Government from time to time, MSOs are reminded to browse the website of the US Treasury regularly for the latest information.

MSOs should check the names in all of the above lists against their records, and report any transactions or relationships they have or have had with the named persons or entities to the Joint Financial Intelligence Unit.

Furthermore, MSOs are reminded to refer to Chapter 6 of the Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing which contains guidance on the appropriate measures that MSOs should take to ensure compliance with the regulations made under the UNSO and the Executive Order.

Should you have any queries regarding the contents of this circular, please contact us on 3759 3742.

Money Service Supervision Bureau Customs and Excise Department

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